

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04870 01 OF 02 291205Z

46

ACTION IO-14

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OIC-04 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-03 CEA-02 PRS-01

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 4870

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SUBJ: 57TH ECOSOC: OMNIBUS RESOLUTION, ITEMS 4, 6
AND 14(D)

REF: GENEVA 4743

SUMMARY. CONTACT GROUP ON OMNIBUS G-77 RESOLUTION
ON ITEMS 4, 6 AND 14D (PLAN OF ACTION, 1975 SPECIAL
SESSION, AND DDII MID-TERM REVIEW) HELD LENGTHY BUT
FRUSTRATING SESSIONS JULY 27, RESULTING IN VIRTUALLY
NO PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING OF MINDS BETWEEN G-77 AND
WEO'S. G-77 REJECTED NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL WEO SUG-
GESTIONS (INCLUDING US) FOR MAKING REFERENCES TO
DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION MORE PALATABLE.
INSTEAD OFFERED "COMPROMISE" PACKAGE UNDER WHICH
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL WOULD MAKE STATEMENT FOR THE
RECORD MENTIONING RESERVATIONS, COUPLED WITH NEW
PARAGRAPH IN RESOLUTION ITSELF URGING DC'S TO KEEP
RESERVATIONS UNDER REVIEW WITH VIEW TO REMOVING THEM.
WEO'S FOUND FORMULA UNSATISFACTORY SINCE DID NOT
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04870 01 OF 02 291205Z

ACHIEVE PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN APPROVAL OF DECLARATION

AND PROGRAM OF ACTION ON ONE HAND AND FACT OF SUBSTANTIAL RESERVATIONS ON OTHER. CONTACT GROUP TO RESUME MORNING JULY 29. END SUMMARY.

1. FURTHER MEETINGS OF CONTACT GROUP ON G-77 OMNIBUS RESOLUTION (ITEM 4, PROGRAM OF ACTION; ITEM 6, 1975 SPECIAL SESSION GA; AND ITEM 14B, SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE, MID-TERM REVIEW) DID NOT OCCUR UNTIL SATURDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON, JULY 27, BECAUSE OF UNREADINESS OF GROUP OF 77. MEETING WHICH FINALLY DID OCCUR WAS ALMOST TOTAL FRUSTRATION, WITH VIRTUALLY NO PROGRESS MADE TOWARD MEETING OF MINDS BETWEEN G-77 AND WEO'S. G-77 HAD NO NEW DRAFT TO PRESENT, SO INSTEAD ASKED A REPETITION OF PARAGRAPH-BY-PARAGRAPH APPROACH, DURING WHICH THEIR SPOKESMEN GAVE REACTIONS TO WEO SUGGESTIONS, ANNOUNCED A FEW SMALL CHANGES WHICH THEY EUPHEMISTICALLY TERMED "CONCESSIONS", AND OFFERED A FEW MORE DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION. DISCUSSION BARELY GOT BEYOND PREAMBLE, AND THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT ON THAT.

2. WHILE PAKISTAN, INDIA AND YUGOSLAVIA HAD BEEN PRINCIPAL G-77 SPOKESMEN DURING FIRST CONTACT GROUP MEETING, BRAZIL (BRITO) WAS THEIR PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN AND FLOOR LEADER DURING THESE TWO SESSIONS, WITH ONLY MINOR INTERVENTIONS BY PAKISTAN AND INDIA. MOST WEO MEMBERS SPOKE UP ON ONE POINT OR ANOTHER, BUT NOT AS A COORDINATED PERFORMANCE. "SOCIALIST" GROUP, WHICH HAD MET BRIEFLY WITH G-77 BEFOREHAND, REMAINED SILENT.

3. US PROPOSAL FOR FOUR PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS REFERRING TO THE THREE ASPECTS OF OMNIBUS RES (REFTEL) WAS REJECTED BY G-77 AS "CHANGING THE CAREFUL BALANCE" OF DRAFT RES. RESPONSE BY US (TANK) THAT G-77 DRAFT WAS UNBALANCED WITH MANY REFERENCES TO PROGRAM OF ACTION AND NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER MADE NO DENT. FRANCE REMINDED G-77 OF THEIR SUGGESTION OF SIMPLER REFERENCES TO ALL THREE ASPECTS IN PREAMBLE, BUT THIS WAS IGNORED.

4. G-77 OFFERED NEW VERSION OF SECOND PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH.

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 04870 01 OF 02 291205Z

GRAPH, TO READ: "CONSIDERING THAT COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY SHOULD BE PROMOTED AND ITS CONCEPT FURTHER ELABORATED WITH FULL RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLE OF SOVEREIGNTY OF STATES, WITH A VIEW TO FOSTERING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND OVERALL DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY, AND THAT IT SHOULD ASSIST THE ACCELERATION OF THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL

ECONOMIC ORDER." CANADA AND BELGIUM STILL FOUND REFERENCE TO CES UNNECESSARY AND UNACCEPTABLE SINCE NO AGREED DEFINITION. UK FOUND CHANGE ACCEPTABLE, BUT SAID IT WOULD LATER RAISE QUESTION ON OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ON CES. CHINA SUPPORTED AS SAFEGUARD AGAINST FURTHER PLUNDER OF LDC'S. US SAID IT HAD PROBLEM WITH PHRASE "WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER", EXPLAINING AGAIN WE WOULD HAVE GENERAL RESERVATION.

5. G-77 DID NOT ACCEPT SWEDISH PROPOSAL FOR NEW PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH STATING CENTRAL PURPOSE OF DEVELOPMENT WAS TO DIMINISH GROSS INEQUALITIES IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE AMONG AND WITHIN NATIONS AND TO ATTACK POVERTY, PARTICULARLY WAYS TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF POOREST GROUPS WITHIN POOR COUNTRIES. G-77 CONSIDERED IT EXTRANEOUS. U.S. SUPPORTED, AND SUGGESTED PLACEMENT IN MID-TERM REVIEW SECTION.

6. FROM THIS POINT ALMOST ALL OF DISCUSSION REVOLVED AROUND QUESTION OF REFERENCES TO PROGRAM OF ACTION AND NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, FOCUSING MAINLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY ON THIRD AND FOURTH PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS (WHICH WEO'S FOUND UNACCEPTABLE SINCE THEY MADE NO ALLOWANCE FOR EXTENSIVE RESERVATIONS), PLUS A NEW PARAGRAPH PROPOSED BY G-77.

7. G-77 OFFERED TO DROP "JOINTLY ADOPTED AT THE SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION" AFTER "PROGRAMME OF ACTION" IN THIRD PARAGRAPH, AS WELL AS "WITHOUT DELAY" AFTER "IMPLEMENTING" IN FOURTH PARAGRAPH. WEO'S DID NOT CONSIDER THIS SUFFICIENT, BUT G-77 REJECTED VARIOUS WEO SUGGESTIONS, INCLUDING (A) US DISAGREEMENT WITH PHRASE "PLEDGE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 04870 01 OF 02 291205Z

ALL MEMBER STATES"; (B) UK PROPOSAL (SUPPORTED BY FRG, FRANCE) FOR "AS ADOPTED" FORMULA TO IMPLICITLY COVER RESERVATIONS, (C) FRG PROPOSAL (SUPPORTED BY UK) TO REFER TO BOTH ADOPTION AND RESERVATIONS; (D) ITALIAN SUGGESTION TO USE "IMPLEMENTING CONSENSUS ON (RATHER THAN "PROVISIONS OF") PROGRAM OF ACTION"; (E) BELGIAN SUGGESTION TO USE "THOSE PROVISIONS OF THE PROGRAM OF ACTION WHICH HAVE BEEN AGREED"; (F) UK PROPOSAL (SUPPORTED BY CANADA AND FINLAND) FOR ADDING "TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE" AFTER "IMPLEMENTING". G-77 STATED THAT, WHILE THEY WERE FULLY AWARE OF RESERVATIONS, ADOPTION OF DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION WAS A FACT AND THAT ANY QUALIFICATION OF THIS WAS UNACCEPTABLE. ABRAMS

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04870 02 OF 02 291311Z

46

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 4870

8 NETHERLANDS, AFTER ASKING G-77 TO CONSIDER UK AND FRG SUGGESTIONS, THEN ASSUMED MEDIATING ROLE THAT NO OTHER WEO ASKED THEM TO TAKE ON. SUGGESTED PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL COULD MAKE STATEMENT IN PLENARY ON MANNER IN WHICH DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION ADOPTED, REFERRING TO NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS, AND THAT GIST OF STATEMENT WOULD THEN BE ADDID TO RESOLUTION AS FOOTNOTE.

9. AFTER CAUCUSING A COUPLE OF TIMES (ONCE WITH NETHERLANDS REP) G-77 (A) ACCEPTED IDEA OF STATEMENTS BOTH BY CHAIRMAN OF ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AND PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL ALONG ABOVE LINES, BUT WITH THESE SIMPLY APPEARING IN EXTENSO IN RESPECTIVE REPORTS AND SUMMARY RECORDS, WITHOUT ANY FOOTNOTE REFERENCE IN RESOLUTION ITSELF; (B) STIPULATED THAT THEREAFTER THERE SHOULD BE NO FURTHER STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS ON THIS SCORE; AND (C) PROPOSED AS PART OF THE PACKAGE A NEW OPERATIVE PARA IN THE RESOLUTION READIN "INVITES THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WHICH ENTERED RESERVATIONS AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE DECLARATION AND THE PROGRAM OF ACTION TO KEEP THEIR RESERVATIONS UNDER

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04870 02 OF 02 291311Z

CONSTANT REVIEW WITH A VIEW TO WITHDRAWING THEM."

10. A VARIETY OF CRITICISMS OF THIS PACKAGE WERE REGISTERED BY WEO'S, INCLUDING UK, UK, FRANCE, CANADA, FRG, FINLAND, AUSTRALIA, AND US. SPECIFIC POINTS MADE INCLUDED (A) UNACCEPTABILITY OF STATEMENT IDEA UNLESS RECORDED IN RESOLUTION AND NOT SIMPLY IN RECORDS; (B) INAPPROPRIATENESS OF DC'S (BY PARTICIPATING IN RESOLUTION) ASKING THEMSELVES TO WITHDRAW RESERVATIONS; (C) POINT MADE BY US THAT WE COULD NOT BE HELD TO MAKING NO FURTHER STATEMENT ON RESERVATIONS. NETHERLANDS, AFTER SUGGESTING LDC HOPE FOR WITHDRAWAL OF RESERVATIONS MIGHT APPEAR IN STATEMENTS AND IN FOOTNOTE, STILL SAW BASIS FOR AGREEMENT IN G-77 PROPOSAL.

11. G-77 EXPRESSED PAIN OVER REACTION, STATING THEIR PROPOSAL REPRESENTED "ALL POSSIBLE EFFORTS" TO ACCOMMODATE DC'S.

12. ONE ADDITIONAL POINT AROSE IN CONNECTION WITH G-77 REVISION OF SIXTH PREAMBULAR PARA TO READ, "BEARING IN MIND IN PARTICULAR THE TASK OF ECOSOC, ASSIGNED TO IT BY THE SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION, OF DEFINING THE POLICY FRAMEWORK AND COORDINATING THE ACTIVITIES OF ALL ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM, DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ANY PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES WHICH MAY ARISE IN CONNEXION WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION AND THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION." US STATED "DEFINING POLICY FRAMEWORK" WITH RESPECT TO UN SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BE CONTRARY TO CHARTER ARTICLE 63.

13. CONTACT GROUP AGREED RESUME MORNING OF JULY 29, AND AGAIN IN AFTERNOON AND/OR EVENING.

14. COMMENT: DEBATE ON MAIN ISSUE OF APPROPRIATENESS OF ALLUSIONS TO NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND PLAN OF ACTION IN CONTEXT OMNIBUS RESOLUTION ARE CENTRAL TO THIS ISSUE IN BROADER ECOSOC CONTEXT, WHERE PROBLEM ARISES TO AT LEAST SOME DEGREE IN 12 RESOLUTIONS AND PENDING RESOLUTIONS, WITH PROBABLY 4. MORE TO COME.

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 04870 02 OF 02 291311Z

AS EXPLICITLY STATED DURING CONTACT GROUP DEBATE, WEO'S INSIST THAT REALITY OF RESERVATIONS CANNOT AND

SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED BY PRETENDING THAT SPECIAL
SESSION RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS AND
REPRESENT OBLIGATION ON ALL WITHOUT QUALIFICATION.
FOR THEIR PART -- AS ALSO EXPLICITLY STATED -- G-77,
WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING RESERVATIONS, INSIST ON FACT THAT
RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED AND ARE UNWILLING TO DILUTE
THAT POINT BY GIVING FURTHER STATURE TO RESERVATIONS.
LITTLE OR NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN RECONCILING
THESE POSITIONS. END COMMENT. ABRAMS

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